HOUSTON POST
JULY 24, 1975

Jack Ruby informant for FBI

Knight News Wire

PHILADELPHIA — Jack Rucy, who shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald, alleged assassin of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas in 1963, was an FBI informant as early as 1959.

That's revealed in an unpublicized letter from FBI director J. Edgar Hoover to the Warren Commission charged with investigating the President's death.

The letter, dated June 9, 1964, was declassified in 1965 at the National Archives but not made public. A private citizen's group investigating the Kennedy killing discovered it earlier this year.

The Warren Commission failed to mention the Hoover letter or Ruby's FBI connection in its 26-volume report, according to Mark Lane, a Washington attorney and longtime critic of the commission's finding that Oswald acted alone in killing Kennedy.

Lane now heads the Citizens Commission of Inquiry, a group lobbying to have Congress reopen the investigation into the 1963 assassination.

Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner, shot Oswald to death in the Dallas jail Nov. 24, 1963, two days after President Kennedy was slain.

In the hand-delivered letter, Hoover advised the commission the FBI first contacted Ruby on March 11, 1959, and requested he act aeaninform ant because of his "knowledge of the criminal element in Dallas."

Hoover said Ruby "expressed a willingness to furnish information" and that no other results were obtained. Agents met with Ruby on eight otherhoccasions between March 11, 1959 and Oct. 2, 1959, but received no infogmation from him, and so discontinued the meetings, the Hoover letter contends.

Lane turned his findings over to Rep. Don Edwards, D-Calif., chairman of the House subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights of the Judiciary.

Lane said Edwards was requesting FBI Director Clarence Kelley to furnish House investigators with copies of the FBI "302" reports that would contain more details of the agents' meetings with Ruby.

Revenue sharing abuse reported

Knight News Wire

WASHINGTON — For all its obvious benefits, federal revenue sharing is encouraging financial deception and discrimination at the local level, the government's chief auditor said Wednesday.

To remedy such abuses, U.S. Comptroller Gen. Elmer B. Staats urged Congress to write tougher civil rights provisions into the law and force local governments to be more accountable to the taxpayers.

Staats testified before a Senate Government Operations subcommittee on the findings of a General Accounting Office (GAO) review of revenue sharing in 26 localities.

The study, released Wednesday, contained no bombshells but did produce what subcommittee chairman Edmund Muskie, D-Maine, called "common threads" tha are "discouraging."

Among them:

- To get around restrictions on the use of revenue sharing money, some local governments simply divert local funds for so-called "sensitive" projects and use the federal dollars to replenish their treasuries.

- Local accounting of revenue sharing uses, required by law, is largely "illusory" and doesn't reflect what is actually being done with the taxpayers' funds.

- The legacy of discriminatory imployment practices has continued in many areas, dispite restrictions in the revenue sharing act against racial or sexual b wage-discrimination.

- In most of the 26 localities revi public participation in budgetary dec — a linchpin in the self-determinatio cept of revenue sharing — remaine the same low level that existed pr revenue sharing."

The GAO study also revealed a bright spots.

Revenue sharing, the GAO reporte relieved tax pressures in general. N the 26 localities had reduced taxes be of revenue sharing and nine other managed to hold the line.

Without revenue sharing, Staats fied, many of the governments woul had to reduce or eliminate servic crease taxes or fees, or coax more al the state or federal governments.

Although civil rights abuses rem troublesom problem, Staats said th "substantial evidence" that larger ju tions are changing their practices clude more minorities and femal projects funded by revenue sharing.

But Staats said his auditors were trated in their attempts to monit actual impact of revenue sharing virtually impossible to make more t opinionated guess at the program he said because of budget shuffling a accounting.

Staats suggested that Congress o take all of strings off revenue sha rewrite the whole package to gi federal government meaningful over how localities spend nation funds.

Fall from leaning tower of Pisa kills bo

PISA, Italy (AP) — Henry Arthur Case, a 12-year-old student from Kirkland, Wash., died at hospital Wednesday after falling from Pisa's famed leaning tower, authorities reported. He fractured his skull and limbs in the fall.

He was on a tour with schoolmates and teachers. The group was climbing famed 179-foot bell tower Tuesday.

Police said the boy lagged behin first open gallery and witnesses r he hugged one of the slim columns, pull himself around it, lost his gra fell 50 feet to the marble pavement.

Mom killed, son hurt crossing freeway

A woman, three months pregnant, was killed and her 8-year-old son injured as they tried to cross the west-bound lane of the East Freeway during rush hour traffic Wednesday afternoon, police said.

Leonora F. Coleman, 26, of 3602 Rosewood, 33, died at Ben Taub Hospital at 6:50 p.m. of head injuries and her son, Keary [illegible] was in fair condition with internal injuries.

Police said Coleman, who had ru gas and had crossed the freeway to ice station, was returning to her c she was struck by a car in the 51 of the freeway.

No charges were filed against th of the Car, Martha L. Edwards, 5 Georgia.